

For Immediate Release  
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### **SUPERVISORS APPROVE SENIOR EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

The following items came before the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors during their August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Approval was given to a \$373,123 contract with the California Department of Aging and a \$483,500 contract with the National Council on the Aging, Inc. to provide the Senior Employment Program. The program provides part-time employment training opportunities for low-income persons aged 55 or older. Participants in the program receive on-the-job training in clerical work, basic computer skills, and food preparation. They are also trained in job interviewing skills. Federal and state revenues fund the cost of the program.

“The Senior Employment Program has proved to be very useful to senior citizens seeking to obtain part-time employment,” said Board Chairman Fred Aguiar. “I am pleased to see that the funding is available to continue providing these very important services.”

- The Board considered a report compiled by county staff regarding a proposed merger of the Public Administrator-Coroner’s office with the Sheriff’s Department. The proposal calls for the elimination of the elected position of Public Administrator-Coroner upon the expiration of the current Coroner’s term in January 2003. The proposal would combine the office with the Sheriff to create a new elected office-- Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator. Under the proposal, the current Coroner, Brian McCormick, would become a non-sworn member of the Sheriff’s executive staff and the office would become a new bureau within the Sheriff’s Department managed by Mr. McCormick. Currently, forty-three of fifty-eight counties in California have combined the Sheriff and Coroner departments. The Board of Supervisors is expected to consider the merger next month.

“I was pleased to see the Board asking tough questions about the proposed merger’s impact on public service,” Aguiar stated. “I believe there are several outstanding issues that must be addressed before we can act. At this point, more information is needed for the Board to make an informed decision.”

- Approval was given for the creation of a pool of Bond Counsel, Bond Underwriters, and Financial Advisors. This pool of qualified professionals will allow the county to react more quickly to financing opportunities in the marketplace as well as provide services on an “as needed basis.” Members for the pool were selected as the result of a request for proposals, and were subjected to an extensive and thorough background check. County staff will review the pool membership and reopen the pool selection process every three years.

“The method of selecting this pool of financial advisors demonstrates the Board of Supervisors ongoing commitment to a competitive and open procurement process,” said Supervisor Aguiar.

- On a 4-1 vote, with Supervisor Dennis Hansberger objecting, the Board gave final approval to new supervisorial district boundaries. The new district boundaries will be effective thirty days from today. Under the revised map, a small portion of Fontana currently in the Fourth District will become part of the Second District. No other significant changes to the Fourth District, which includes the cities of Ontario, Montclair, Chino, and Chino Hills, were made.

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